

ABSTRACT

A telephone system supervises the redirection of an incoming telephone call to a subscriber who is not located at their expected location. Thus, when a calling party attempts to contact a subscriber who is not at their expected location, the system initially leaves the call unanswered (i.e., ringing) while initiating one or more outgoing calls to call forwarding numbers for the subscriber. If no outgoing telephone call is answered, the system directs the incoming telephone call to the subscriber's voice mail, or to another pre-determined location (e.g., an attendant). On the other hand, if the outgoing telephone call is answered, the system answers the incoming telephone call and bridges the incoming call to the answered outgoing call.